

**SB 463 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Establishes exception to gift limitation for food and beverage consumed by members of Legislative Assembly or candidates for office as members of Legislative Assembly at a meal or reception.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Current law defines the term “gift” as anything of economic value that is given to a public official, a relative, or member of the public official’s household that is not equally extended to nonpublic officials. While many exemptions to this definition exist, public officials cannot receive more than \$50 per year from a single source with a legislative or administrative interest. Public officials may not accept unlimited food, travel, or lodging expenses unless the expenses fit into a specific exemption to the definition of “gift.” One exception is reasonable food, travel, or lodging expenses consumed by a public official or a relative, member of the public official’s household, or staff member accompanying the public official when the public official is representing state government, a local government, or a special government body. Another exception is the food and beverage consumed by a public official when acting in an official capacity. Senate Bill 463 establishes an exception for food and beverage consumed by members of the Legislative Assembly or candidates for office as members of the Legislative Assembly at a meal or reception.